



**DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE  
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU  
1411 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3231**

NGB-J1

23 March 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADUTANTS GENERAL OF ALL STATES, PUERTO RICO, THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS, GUAM, AND THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

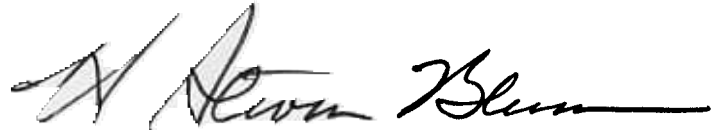
SUBJECT: The American Veterans (AMVETS) Outreach Support Services for Members of the National Guard and their Families (J1-05-015)

1. The AMVETS has long recognized the vital role that the National Guard maintains in supporting our nation's military objectives and preserving a strong National Defense. The AMVETS firmly believes that military families should not have to shoulder the burden of activation and deployment alone and have extended their support network of services to enhance our capabilities to ensure that our service members and their families receive needed assistance.
2. Due to the unique organizational structure of the National Guard, many of our Soldiers, Airmen and their Families can find themselves isolated from normal military and civilian support channels. Meeting monthly expenses or completing tasks can become overwhelming for families with an activated or deployed service member. The AMVETS stands ready to assist our National Guard personnel and their families through the AMVETS Family Support Network. This program is not an attempt to replace existing military family support programs or to circumvent the chain-of-command, but rather to augment them and ensure that families receive needed support. With nearly 180,000 veterans represented in (41) organized States/Departments. AMVETS will be a force multiplier for our Family Programs offices.
3. I have requested that The AMVETS Department Headquarters located in your state contact your office within the next several weeks. I strongly encourage you to set aside time for personal meetings to discuss how the AMVETS and the Guard can work together in supporting our service members and their families. You should however, remain mindful of the restrictions contained in the Joint Ethics Regulation regarding relationships with non-federal entities.

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4. The point of contact is BG Ronald Young, Director Manpower and Personnel, commercial 703-607-3653 or DSN 327-3653.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H Steven Blum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

H STEVEN BLUM  
Lieutenant General, US Army  
Chief, National Guard Bureau

CF:  
NGB-PA



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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE NATIONAL GUARD  
AND  
AMERICAN VETERANS (AMVETS)

SUBJECT: Expand Outreach Support for National Guard Service Members and Families

1. PURPOSE: To establish a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that describes the parameters of association between the National Guard and the American Veterans (AMVETS) of the United States and to serve as acknowledgement by the National Guard Bureau and State Joint Force Headquarters of the availability of services provided through the AMVETS-in order to expand outreach support to National Guard Service Members and their Families.

2. BACKGROUND: All parties recognize the value of a relationship between the National Guard and Veteran Services Organizations will enhance our capabilities to provide additional quality of life services and support to all members of the National Guard and their Families.

3. RELATIONSHIPS:

a. The National Guard Family Programs Division: Will establish the lines of communication with the National Headquarters of the AMVETS and will serve as the conduit for the State Joint Force Headquarters. The National Guard Bureau will request each State Joint Force Headquarters family services representative contact the AMVETS State Headquarters within their boundaries to establish awareness and a working relationship.

b. Each State and local AMVETS unit/Post: Will contact the State Joint Force Headquarters within their boundaries to establish a working relationship with the family services representative.

4. DISCLAIMER: The National Guard in accordance with the Joint Ethics Regulation is prohibited from endorsing or implying to endorse a non-Federal entity, event, product, service or enterprise. All parties recognize that this memorandum of understanding is not of that intent and, that it is not intended to violate any existing laws, regulations, or policies of either party.

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5. RESPONSIBILITIES:

a. The National Guard shall:

- (1) Provide the AMVETS an updated list of State Joint Force Headquarters.
- (2) Provide an updated list of family services liaisons, State Family Directors, Wing Family Coordinators, and Family Assistance Centers to the National Headquarters of the AMVETS.
- (3) Advise Family Program workers and volunteers of the ability to share informational materials such as bulletins, brochures, and newsletters where applicable as a means to obtain information regarding AMVETS activities, programs, initiatives, and special community events in local areas of National Guard members and their families.
- (4) Inform National Guard Family Volunteers of the opportunity to liaison with AMVETS volunteers to enhance quality of service for families and communities at large.
- (5) Inform AMVETS volunteers of the opportunity to participate in Family Program Training events to foster the building of a stronger volunteer base.
- (6) Inform National Guard members of the various programs available to them through the AMVETS such as Youth Leadership Seminars, scholarship initiatives, Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service, Grants for emergency relief, and Dependents State/Federal entitlements. This list is not all-inclusive.
- (7) Inform National Guard members of the services available to them provided by the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary and Service Officers during readiness processing and home station reunion, when applicable.

b. AMVETS shall

- (1) Provide an updated list of State/Department Headquarters to include contact information for each Commander, Adjutant and Executive Director.
- (2) Encourage all AMVETS Departments to promote community support for all mobilizations and demobilizations.

SUBJECT: Expand Outreach Support for National Guard Service Members and Families

(3) Provide an updated list of all Post Commanders and POC's to the Joint Force Headquarters within their State and or Territory.

(4) Encourage all AMVETS Posts where appropriate to serve as an extension POC for National Guard State Family Programs Family Assistance Centers coordinated through each State Family Program Director's office.

(5) Encourage AMVETS members to provide information on National Guard-AMVETS relationship activities.

(6) Provide link from the AMVETS website to the National Guard Bureau and the State Joint Force Headquarters family programs websites.

(7) Encourage advocacy and support of the ESGR Ombudsman program that works to provide mediation services to employers and members of the National Guard and Reserve.

(8) Encourage volunteers to cross train with National Guard Family Program Volunteers to enhance the volunteer base in support of Families and Service Members.

(9) Encourage the use of AMVETS Veterans Affairs Service Officers as a vehicle to assist any veteran, or their dependants in obtaining state or federal entitlements.

(10) Encourage the use of AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary in support of National Guard Volunteer support base.

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6. RENEGOTIATION/TERMINATION OF THIS MOU: The effective date of this agreement is as of the signing below and will remain in effect until terminated by either party.



H STEVEN BLUM  
Lieutenant, General, US Army  
Chief, National Guard Bureau

MARCH 23, 2005

(DATE)



WILLIAM A. BOETTCHER  
National Commander  
American Veterans

MARCH 23, 2005

(DATE)